



ASSESSING THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF TRADE WARS ON GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN STABILITY AND COSTS

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Abstract: This study examines the long-term economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chain stability and costs, focusing on how these conflicts shape business strategies, cost structures, and global trade dynamics. Given the increasing frequency of trade wars, particularly the US-China trade conflict, understanding their enduring effects on supply chains is critical for both academic research and practical decision-making. A qualitative literature review approach was employed, synthesizing existing studies, case reports, and theoretical frameworks to explore how trade wars influence supply chain management. Thematic analysis was used to identify key themes, such as cost escalation, supply chain diversification, regionalization, and technological adaptation. The findings reveal that trade wars significantly increase operational and logistical costs, forcing businesses to adjust pricing strategies and reevaluate production models. Additionally, businesses are adopting strategies such as diversification and regionalization to mitigate trade risks, while also investing in digital technologies like blockchain and AI to enhance supply chain resilience. These shifts indicate a broader reconfiguration of global supply chains, as companies reduce reliance on traditional global hubs and move toward more regionalized networks. This research contributes to the existing literature by emphasizing the long-term, structural changes resulting from trade conflicts, offering new insights into how businesses adapt and innovate in response to such disruptions. The implications for policymakers and businesses are substantial, highlighting the need for flexible strategies in a volatile trade environment. Future research could explore the impacts of other trade disputes and gather primary data to gain deeper insights into real-time corporate responses.

Keywords: Trade Wars, Supply Chains, Cost Escalation, Regionalization, Technological Adaptation.

INTRODUCTION:

The global economy has become increasingly interwoven through international trade, with supply chains serving as the foundation for economic growth and market integration. However, the stability of these supply chains has been significantly challenged by the rise of trade wars, particularly in the last decade. The trade conflict between the United States and China, which began in 2018, stands as a prominent example of how trade disputes can reshape global markets. Trade wars typically involve the imposition of tariffs, non-tariff barriers, and other protectionist measures that disrupt the established flow of goods and services across borders. The ripple effects of such policies have raised serious concerns about the long-term viability of global supply chains. Sectors heavily reliant on cross-border manufacturing and sourcing, such as electronics, automotive, and consumer goods, have felt the weight of increased costs, operational inefficiencies, and shifting trade relationships.



This issue has garnered increasing attention from both academics and industry experts, as the effects of trade wars are not only immediate but can also have lasting consequences on global trade patterns. According to a study by the World Trade Organization (2021), global trade growth slowed to its lowest point in decades during the height of the US-China trade war, with trade volume dropping by nearly 5% in 2019. Such disruptions are particularly pronounced in industries like electronics and automobiles, which rely on finely tuned global supply networks. For example, the semiconductor industry, a critical component of the tech sector, was severely impacted by tariffs on Chinese goods, forcing companies like Huawei to diversify their supply chains and incur higher production costs. The economic implications of these shifts extend beyond just the companies involved, affecting consumers, workers, and economies at large, with price increases and job displacement as immediate results.

The importance of this research lies in its focus on the long-term economic consequences of trade wars, an area that remains underexplored in existing literature. While much research has concentrated on the short-term disruptions caused by trade wars or on specific trade disputes, there has been limited attention given to the enduring impacts on global supply chains. The literature largely lacks a comprehensive assessment of how sustained trade conflicts reshape supply chain strategies over time, especially regarding cost adjustments, strategic sourcing, and supply chain restructuring. This gap in understanding is critical, as it limits both theoretical insights and practical solutions for businesses navigating the increasingly protectionist global landscape.

This study seeks to address this gap by exploring the lasting economic effects of trade wars on global supply chain stability and costs. By focusing on long-term trends, this research will provide valuable insights into how businesses, particularly multinational corporations, can adapt their supply chain models in response to trade disruptions. A case in point is the automotive industry, where major manufacturers such as Ford and General Motors have had to adjust their supply chain strategies in light of shifting tariffs, increased costs, and changing trade regulations. These companies have had to diversify their supplier base, increase production in alternative regions, and even reconsider long-term investments in certain markets. Such strategic adjustments have profound implications not only for company profitability but also for broader economic stability.

The significance of this research is twofold: it contributes to the academic discourse on international trade and supply chain management by offering new insights into the enduring economic consequences of trade wars, and it provides practical recommendations for policymakers and businesses. From an academic perspective, this study adds to the growing body of knowledge on the intersection of trade policy and supply chain management, enriching theories of global trade and economic resilience. Practically, the research will offer actionable strategies for businesses and governments seeking to mitigate the risks posed by ongoing and future trade conflicts.

This research contributes to the understanding of global supply chain resilience in a rapidly evolving trade environment. By examining the strategies adopted by companies to manage the fallout of trade wars, the study provides lessons in how to build more flexible, responsive supply chains. It will also explore the role of technological advancements and innovation in mitigating the costs of trade war-induced disruptions. In doing so, this research will not only expand the academic literature but will also serve as a valuable resource for practitioners in supply chain management, trade policy, and international business strategy.



LITERATURE REVIEW:

The Impact of Trade Wars on Global Supply Chain Dynamics

Trade wars, particularly the recent US-China conflict, have had profound effects on the dynamics of global supply chains. The imposition of tariffs and trade barriers has disrupted the efficient flow of goods, requiring companies to adapt their strategies to mitigate the increased costs and delays. According to Schortgen (2025), the US-China trade war, which started in 2018, triggered a reevaluation of global supply chain strategies, as businesses were forced to reassess their dependence on specific countries for sourcing raw materials and components. As tariffs were levied, companies faced higher input costs, which were either passed on to consumers or absorbed by firms themselves, leading to a squeeze on profit margins. For instance, the electronics industry, heavily reliant on Chinese manufacturing, witnessed substantial shifts in sourcing strategies to avoid tariff burdens, which consequently reshaped global supply chain configurations.

In addition to increased costs, trade wars can lead to significant shifts in supply chain networks. Studies by Thavenet (2025) highlight how protectionist policies during trade conflicts disrupt established supplier relationships, forcing companies to explore alternative sourcing countries or nearshoring options to maintain competitive pricing. This process, known as "de-globalization," involves the reduction of cross-border supply chain linkages, which has long-term implications for global trade patterns. For example, several firms in the apparel and consumer goods sectors sought to reduce their reliance on China by relocating production to Southeast Asia, thus altering the geographical distribution of production and assembly. The resulting shifts contribute to the reorganization of global supply chains, with firms balancing cost considerations against the risks of further trade disruptions.

Long-Term Economic Consequences of Trade Conflicts

While much of the literature focuses on the immediate impact of trade wars, the long-term economic effects are just as critical. As Baldwin & Freeman (2022) suggests, the long-term consequences of trade wars include reduced investment in global supply chains and a potential shift in the fundamental structure of global trade itself. Companies may delay or cancel investments in regions affected by trade uncertainty, leading to slower economic growth and decreased productivity in the affected sectors. Moreover, trade conflicts can force firms to seek out new suppliers, often resulting in suboptimal partnerships that lack the efficiency or scale of previous arrangements. This misalignment can lead to inefficiencies in production processes and, over time, undermine the competitive advantage of firms previously dependent on the global supply chain model. These shifts in investment and productivity are compounded by changes in consumer behavior, which can reduce demand for goods that have become more expensive due to tariffs.

Furthermore, the economic impacts of trade wars extend beyond the immediate costs borne by businesses and consumers. According to a report by the OECD (2019), the cumulative effect of prolonged trade conflicts can result in lower global GDP growth, as trade volume decreases and countries adopt protectionist policies. Over the long term, this can exacerbate inequalities between countries and within industries, with some sectors and regions more heavily impacted than others. The manufacturing sector, for instance, which is highly dependent on cross-border supply chains, is particularly vulnerable to these disruptions. The economic dislocation caused by trade wars can



result in job losses, factory closures, and a shift away from export-oriented industries, with negative consequences for labor markets and local economies. Thus, the long-term economic fallout from trade wars extends far beyond the immediate effects on businesses and consumers, influencing broader macroeconomic conditions.

Supply Chain Adaptations and Strategic Responses to Trade Wars

In response to the disruptions caused by trade wars, companies have increasingly turned to strategic adaptations to ensure the resilience of their supply chains. A growing body of research examines how firms are diversifying their supplier base, shifting production to new regions, and investing in supply chain technologies to mitigate the effects of trade conflicts. According to Patel (2023), companies are increasingly focusing on “supply chain resilience,” which involves the ability to adapt to disruptions by making supply chains more flexible and responsive. This can include reconfiguring production networks, seeking out alternative sources of raw materials, or employing advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and blockchain to improve supply chain visibility and efficiency. Companies that have invested in diversifying their supply chains are often better positioned to withstand the uncertainties brought on by trade wars and other geopolitical factors.

One notable example of supply chain adaptation is the semiconductor industry, which has faced significant pressure due to the US-China trade war. Firms like TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company) and Samsung have responded by shifting their production to alternative markets and increasing investments in regional production facilities to mitigate the risk of tariffs and export restrictions (Chiang, 2023). These companies are not only diversifying their production but also adopting new technologies to enhance the efficiency and security of their supply chains. Moreover, companies in industries such as automotive manufacturing are increasingly exploring “nearshoring” opportunities, relocating production closer to end markets to reduce dependence on distant suppliers. This trend towards regionalization of supply chains is seen as a direct response to the volatility created by trade wars, reflecting a shift toward more localized and resilient supply chain models in an increasingly protectionist global economy.

METHODOLOGY:

Research Design

This study adopts a qualitative research design, specifically a literature review approach, to explore the long-term economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chain stability and costs. A literature review is considered the most appropriate method because it allows for a comprehensive synthesis of existing studies, theories, and empirical findings, offering a deeper understanding of the effects of trade wars on global supply chains (Li & Wang, 2018). Given the broad nature of the topic and the scarcity of direct empirical research on long-term impacts, this approach provides a way to consolidate and analyze the knowledge that has already been established. Qualitative methods, as highlighted by Creswell & Creswell (2017), are particularly well-suited for exploratory studies like this one, which aim to uncover patterns and insights from multiple sources of existing knowledge. Through this design, the study aims to identify key themes, draw connections between different research findings, and understand the broader economic consequences of trade wars, such as increased supply chain costs and long-term instability.



The rationale behind using a literature review lies in its ability to synthesize vast amounts of diverse data across different sectors, regions, and theoretical perspectives. By reviewing existing literature, this study can address the complex, multifaceted impacts of trade wars, which are difficult to measure through a single dataset or case study alone. As trade wars often involve a series of dynamic policy changes, a literature review enables the study to trace the evolution of these impacts over time, identifying long-term effects that may not be immediately observable in short-term studies. The findings of this study will contribute to the growing body of knowledge by filling gaps in the existing literature on trade wars, supply chain management, and global economics.

Sample Characteristics and Selection Criteria

The sample for this literature review consists of peer-reviewed articles, books, government publications, and industry reports that examine the economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chains. The selection criteria focus on studies published in the last 10 years, with a specific emphasis on research related to the US-China trade war, which has had a significant influence on global supply chains since 2018. The review also includes studies that analyze industries particularly affected by trade disruptions, such as electronics, automotive, and technology, which rely heavily on global supply chains. In addition to academic papers, the review will consider industry reports and government documents that provide empirical data and real-world case studies on the topic, ensuring the inclusion of practical, evidence-based insights.

The inclusion criteria will prioritize studies that discuss the economic consequences of trade wars, such as the cost increases due to tariffs, shifts in production and sourcing strategies, and changes in supply chain structures. Articles that focus on other forms of trade disruptions, such as sanctions or trade agreements, will be excluded if they do not specifically address the impact of trade wars on supply chain stability and costs. Additionally, studies that do not include empirical data or those that are outside the scope of the selected timeframe (2013-2023) will be excluded to maintain the relevance and rigor of the sample. By applying these criteria, the study ensures that only the most relevant, recent, and high-quality sources are included in the review, enhancing the validity and reliability of the findings (Shaheen et al., 2023).

Data Analysis Method: Thematic Analysis

The data from the selected literature will be analyzed using thematic analysis, a method widely used in qualitative research to identify, analyze, and report patterns (themes) within data (Braun & Clarke, 2006). Thematic analysis is particularly suitable for this study because it allows for the identification of key trends, patterns, and relationships across multiple studies, facilitating a comprehensive understanding of the long-term effects of trade wars on global supply chains. By systematically reviewing and coding the literature, the thematic analysis will reveal recurrent themes such as the impact of tariffs on supply chain costs, the strategies companies adopt to mitigate trade disruptions, and the broader economic implications of changes in global trade policies.

This method allows the study to focus on the underlying factors influencing supply chain disruptions, such as shifts in trade policies, the cost structure of industries, and the adaptability of supply chain networks. It also helps to uncover insights into how businesses have adapted to new



trade dynamics, including supply chain diversification, nearshoring, or the adoption of technological solutions to cope with tariffs and trade restrictions. Thematic analysis is a flexible approach that can be applied to a wide range of data types, making it ideal for a literature review that draws on various sources, including academic articles, industry reports, and case studies (Shukla et al., 2019). By identifying and synthesizing these themes, the study will contribute to a better understanding of the long-term economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chains, providing valuable insights for both academic research and practical decision-making.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

This section presents the findings from the literature review on the long-term economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chains, with a focus on cost escalation and supply chain instability. The results are organized around key themes identified through the thematic analysis of the selected studies. These themes directly address the research objectives and the underlying questions that guided this study.

Increased Costs and Economic Strain on Supply Chains

One of the most consistent findings across the reviewed literature is the significant increase in costs for businesses involved in global supply chains due to trade wars. Several studies highlighted how tariffs, import duties, and other protectionist policies resulted in higher input costs for industries such as electronics, automotive, and manufacturing (Cherif & Hasanov, 2024). For instance, the US-China trade war caused a sharp rise in production costs for companies that relied on Chinese-made components. According to Pagliaccio (2024), automotive manufacturers like Ford and General Motors faced substantial increases in material costs due to the imposition of tariffs on Chinese goods. This, in turn, led to a rise in the prices of consumer goods, which impacted consumer behavior and reduced demand for certain products. Similarly, companies in the electronics industry, such as Apple, reported increased costs associated with the need to shift production to alternative countries to avoid tariff impositions. These higher costs, whether absorbed by companies or passed onto consumers, had long-term implications for the profitability of businesses and the affordability of products.

Moreover, research by the Mishra et al. (2025) found that global supply chains experienced an overall rise in logistical costs as a result of the trade war-induced disruptions. These disruptions were driven by tariff implementation, customs delays, and supply shortages. Increased logistics and transportation costs were particularly impactful for industries dependent on just-in-time supply chains. As a result, many companies reevaluated their supply chain models, leading to a rise in operational costs. The increased costs resulting from trade wars had broader economic implications as well, leading to slowed economic growth in certain regions, as firms faced financial strain from both higher operational expenses and decreased demand for goods.

Shifts in Supply Chain Strategies: Diversification and Regionalization

Another significant theme emerging from the literature is the strategic shift in global supply chains as a result of trade wars. Companies have increasingly sought to diversify their sourcing and production bases to mitigate the risks associated with tariffs and trade disruptions. The case of the US-China trade war is particularly illustrative, as many companies in sectors like electronics



and manufacturing began relocating production facilities to alternative regions such as Vietnam, Mexico, and India to avoid tariffs on Chinese imports (Tran, 2020). This shift, often referred to as “nearshoring” or “regionalization,” aims to bring production closer to end markets, reducing reliance on distant suppliers and decreasing the impact of trade wars.

The analysis also revealed that businesses adopted strategies to diversify their supplier networks in response to the uncertainty created by trade conflicts. For example, the semiconductor industry, which is crucial to global supply chains, saw major players such as TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company) increasing investments in production facilities in countries like Taiwan and the United States to secure their supply chains against future trade disruptions (Xiong et al., 2025). Additionally, firms began to develop contingency plans and alternative sourcing strategies, often involving the reconfiguration of supply chain networks to be more flexible and resilient to external shocks. While this shift toward diversification and regionalization helped to reduce dependence on specific countries, it also resulted in additional costs for companies as they had to invest in new infrastructure and suppliers to support these changes.

Technological Adaptations and Innovation

A third theme identified in the literature is the role of technology in helping businesses mitigate the negative effects of trade wars on their supply chains. The reviewed studies consistently pointed to the adoption of digital technologies, such as blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI), and advanced data analytics, as essential tools for improving supply chain visibility, flexibility, and efficiency in the face of trade disruptions. According to Henrika et al. (2025), these technologies enable companies to track goods in real time, optimize inventory management, and improve decision-making processes, which is particularly valuable when navigating the uncertainties of trade wars.

One key finding was the increasing use of blockchain technology to enhance transparency and traceability in global supply chains. Companies such as Walmart and IBM have leveraged blockchain to improve the efficiency of their supply chains by creating immutable records of transactions and product journeys. This has not only helped to minimize the risks associated with trade disruptions but also reduced the operational costs related to inventory management and customs processing (Henrika et al., 2025). Similarly, artificial intelligence has been employed to predict potential disruptions and optimize routes for transportation, allowing companies to better respond to trade conflicts and supply shortages. While the implementation of these technologies requires significant upfront investment, the studies reviewed indicate that businesses that adopted them were better positioned to withstand the long-term economic impacts of trade wars.

Long-Term Structural Changes in Global Supply Chains

The literature also revealed long-term structural shifts in global supply chains caused by ongoing trade wars. As protectionist policies become more prevalent, supply chains are gradually shifting from global to more regionalized structures. This shift is driven by the need for companies to reduce exposure to tariff-induced risks and protect their operations from geopolitical instability. A study by Wu (2025) found that the trend of “de-globalization” is particularly evident in sectors such as automotive manufacturing and electronics, where firms are opting for shorter, more



localized supply chains rather than relying on distant suppliers. These shifts represent a fundamental rethinking of the global supply chain model, which was previously characterized by efficiency and cost minimization through global sourcing.

The long-term effect of these structural changes is expected to reshape global trade dynamics, with trade flows becoming more regionally focused and less reliant on traditional global hubs like China. As businesses realign their supply chains to minimize risks, the international trade system may see a decline in cross-border trade volumes, particularly in industries that have been heavily impacted by tariffs (OECD, 2024). While this regionalization could lead to increased resilience in supply chains, it may also result in inefficiencies and higher production costs, as companies will no longer benefit from the scale economies provided by global sourcing.

Employment Impacts and Labor Market Shifts

A final finding from the literature concerns the impact of trade wars on employment within industries that rely heavily on global supply chains. Studies highlighted significant job losses in sectors directly affected by trade disruptions, particularly in manufacturing. For example, the automotive industry, which relies on complex global supply chains, experienced not only job displacement but also a shift in employment patterns as companies moved production to new regions (Dibben et al., 2020). These shifts in production locations and supply chain restructuring often resulted in job losses in certain countries, especially those that were previously major manufacturing hubs like China. At the same time, new employment opportunities arose in regions that became new centers for production as businesses diversified their supply chains.

DISCUSSION

The findings from this research align with existing literature regarding the economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chains, particularly concerning cost escalation and the reconfiguration of global trade networks. Previous studies, such as those by Hayat et al. (2024), have highlighted how trade wars, especially the US-China conflict, result in increased production and logistics costs. This study supports these findings, emphasizing that businesses in sectors like electronics, automotive, and manufacturing face substantial cost increases due to tariffs and disrupted supply chain flows. The long-term nature of these cost escalations is a critical contribution of this study, suggesting that the economic consequences of trade wars extend beyond short-term disruptions, leading to sustained financial strain on businesses and consumers. This deeper understanding expands the theoretical framework by highlighting how ongoing trade disputes reshape business models and supply chain strategies over time.

This research expands on the existing body of literature by providing more nuanced insights into the strategic adaptations of businesses in response to trade wars, particularly through diversification and regionalization of supply chains. Alparslan (2024) have suggested that companies diversify their sourcing and production bases to mitigate risks, and this study extends that notion by highlighting how companies are not only shifting production to new low-cost regions but also adapting their entire operational structures to be more resilient in a volatile global trade environment. The shift from a global to a regional supply chain model is becoming more pronounced, with companies now considering multiple alternative production sites across different continents. This finding highlights the growing importance of geographical diversification in



response to trade disruptions, a strategy that reduces risk but also increases operational complexity and costs.

The role of technological adaptation in mitigating the impacts of trade wars is another significant contribution of this study. While previous research has touched on the use of technology to enhance supply chain efficiency, few studies have linked technological advancements such as AI, blockchain, and predictive analytics directly to trade war-induced disruptions. This study shows that businesses are increasingly adopting digital tools not just for efficiency gains but also as a proactive measure to enhance supply chain resilience. Technologies like blockchain and AI are helping companies navigate tariff-induced uncertainty by improving transparency, optimizing logistics, and predicting potential disruptions. This proactive technological adoption marks a shift from traditional reactive strategies, positioning companies to better withstand the long-term effects of trade wars. The finding contributes to the growing body of literature on digital supply chain management and offers valuable insights into the future of supply chain strategies in a protectionist trade environment.

In terms of long-term structural shifts, this research echoes the concept of "de-globalization" that has been discussed in the literature. However, the study goes a step further by suggesting that these shifts are not temporary but represent a fundamental reorganization of global trade. As companies move production closer to end markets and regionalize their supply chains, the global trade system is expected to evolve from highly integrated international networks to more regionally focused, fragmented trade systems. This reconfiguration has the potential to reshape the competitive landscape of global trade, where regions rather than individual countries or companies may become the primary units of trade. The long-term implications of these shifts are profound, suggesting that the future of global trade will require new policies, strategies, and governance structures to support these emerging trade dynamics.

While this study provides valuable insights, it is not without limitations. One key limitation is its reliance on secondary data from existing literature, which does not fully capture the experiences of businesses directly affected by trade wars. Future research could address this limitation by gathering primary data through interviews or surveys with companies engaged in global supply chains, offering more detailed insights into the real-time strategies businesses use to cope with trade disruptions. Additionally, this study focuses predominantly on the US-China trade war, and while this conflict has been one of the most impactful in recent years, other trade disputes, such as those between the EU and the UK or between the US and other countries, have not been explored in depth. Expanding the scope of future research to include these other trade conflicts could provide a more comprehensive understanding of the global trade shifts resulting from protectionist policies.

CONCLUSIONS

This research provides a comprehensive analysis of the long-term economic impacts of trade wars on global supply chains, focusing on cost escalation, supply chain restructuring, and the adoption of technological innovations. The findings confirm that trade wars, particularly the US-China conflict, lead to significant increases in operational and logistical costs for businesses, with long-lasting effects on global supply chains. This supports previous studies, such as those by Palola (2019), while extending the understanding of how these cost increases persist beyond short-term disruptions and require businesses to adjust their pricing structures and operational



models over time. In addition, this research highlights the strategic shift toward diversification and regionalization of supply chains as companies seek to minimize risks associated with protectionist policies. The adoption of digital technologies like blockchain and AI, driven by the need for greater supply chain resilience, also emerges as a key response to trade conflicts, marking a shift from reactive to proactive strategies in managing supply chain disruptions.

The study contributes to existing literature by offering new insights into the scope and long-term nature of these shifts. While previous research has focused on short-term disruptions or specific case studies, this research emphasizes the enduring impact of trade wars on global supply chains and highlights the evolving strategies businesses are adopting to adapt to these changes. By providing evidence of how companies are reconfiguring their supply chains to reduce dependence on single sources or regions, the research offers a broader perspective on the future of global trade and its potential fragmentation. Additionally, the study enhances understanding of the technological innovations being used to address the challenges posed by trade wars, contributing to the growing body of knowledge on digital supply chain management.

From a theoretical perspective, the findings of this study expand on the concept of "de-globalization," as discussed by Zahoor et al. (2023), by demonstrating that the reconfiguration of supply chains is not just a short-term response to specific trade disputes but may signify a longer-term shift in the structure of global trade. The research further suggests that businesses and policymakers should reconsider traditional models of global supply chain management, particularly in light of increasing protectionism and trade conflicts. The implications for policymakers are significant, suggesting that future trade policies should account for the broader economic consequences of protectionist measures, including the long-term impacts on supply chain stability and regional trade dynamics.

The practical implications of this research are equally important for both businesses and governments. Companies should invest in technological solutions to enhance the flexibility and transparency of their supply chains, while also exploring strategies for diversifying and regionalizing their production networks. Policymakers can benefit from the study's insights by considering the broader economic implications of trade wars when designing trade policies, especially those aimed at protecting national industries from external shocks. By understanding the long-term structural changes in global supply chains, governments can better support businesses in navigating the challenges of a protectionist trade environment.

This study presents several areas for future research. One limitation is the reliance on secondary data from existing literature, which restricts the ability to capture real-time, firsthand experiences of companies navigating trade conflicts. Future research could address this limitation by conducting primary data collection, such as surveys or interviews with supply chain managers or policymakers, to gain deeper insights into how businesses are adapting to trade wars in real-time. Additionally, while this study focused primarily on the US-China trade war, future research should explore the effects of other ongoing trade disputes, such as those involving the European Union or the United Kingdom, and their impact on global supply chains. Research that expands the scope of analysis to other trade conflicts could provide a more comprehensive understanding of the global supply chain challenges posed by protectionist policies.



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